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and rather necessary.

PRESIDENT: Senator Burrows, no, Senator Nichols, excuse me.

SENATOR NICHOLS: I would just like to ask Senator DeCamp a question. Do we have people now on these committees?

SENATOR DeCAMP: There are people on these committees. There are people who have refused to serve on these committees. There is more of an awareness today, particularly in the last few years, of this problem because of litigation and the result of that litigation in other states, and therefore, the problem is highlighted today much more than in past years and the committees, the peer groups, are tending to suffer because of refusals to serve on them, yes.

SENATOR NICHOLS: Then I am assuming that we have many members of these peer groups who are unqualified and shouldn't even be there, is that right?

SENATOR DeCAMP: First of all, you are misinterpreting my answer and distorting it.

SENATOR NICHOLS: Now, wait a minute, we either do have qualified people on there or we have many who are not qualified, in your opinion.

SENATOR DeCAMP: No, that is not it at all and don't play words in games with me. I will explain it more clearly so even you can understand it.

SENATOR NICHOLS: Please.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Okay. If we have a hundred people who are capable of serving on these committees, who have... the pool is a hundred people and many of these people refuse to serve or even make themselves available to serve because of this potential threat, then I am not going to say that out of the ten we selected or out of the ten that are left in the pool that we pulled some people that they are unqualified or qualified. What I am telling you is that we should, for a peer group, have the entire pool of one hundred available and we don't with existing conditions.

SENATOR NICHOL: Then you think this would solve that problem.

SENATOR DeCAMP: I think it would solve it to a large degree, yes. That is the purpose of the legislation.

SENATOR NICHOL: Okay, so you don't think we have any people on there that are disqualified or shouldn't be on there. We just have some mediocre people that are qualified that shouldn't be on there and that we should have a higher group of people on. That is what you are really saying, isn't it now?

SENATOR DeCAMP: I am not saying that at all. What I am saying is rather clear, and as I said, I thought it was so even you could understand it. You, I suppose, and what, Senator Hruska would be experts on mediocrity.